Statement

Sl. No.	Year	No. of farmers (covered)	Sum Insured (Rs. in lakh)	Claims paid (Rs. in lakh)
1	1985-86	47,839	1101.00	39.19
2	1986-87	49,300	1552 27	132.71
3	1987-88 (As on 15-1-88)	26,637	959 15	10.43

Writing off 80 crores invested in Sindri Rationalisation Project

1850. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state::

(a) whether the Department of Fertilizers has submitted a proposal to write-off Rs. 80 crores invested in Sindri Rationalisation Project as the plant is beyond redemption because of serious technical snags;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the decision taken thereon; and

(c) whether Government propose to institute any enquiry into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir; there is such a proposal.

(b) The proposal is to write off:—

(i) assets of Rs. 58.50 crores (Rs. 30.60 crores as equity and Rs. 27.90 crores as loan); and

(ii) accumulated losses of Rs. 86.10 crores suffered by the plant during 1979-80 to 1986-87.

No decision has been taken by the Government.

(c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.

Scarcity of Milk in Drought hit States

1851. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the States, especially the drought hit States, are facing scarcity of milk and milk products;

(b) if so, what is the estimated shortages of milk in various States and how Government propose to maintain the supply of milk;

(c) what actions are proposed to be taken to save the cattle wealth for sustaining the milk supply; and

(d) whether Government are planning to avail milk powder and cattle wealth as part of the foreign aid and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) There had been fall in the availability of milk and milk products during the last drought period. However, there are indications that the situation is improving now.

(b) The steps which had been taken by the Government to ease the situation included (a) liberalisation of procurement prices, (b) augment availability of liquid milk, (c) peg

down the sale price of popular brands of butter like Amul, (d) import of skimmed milk powder and butter oil, (e) promulgation of regulatory measures to control manufacture of milk products and (f) increase fodder production by offering incentives to small and marginal farmers.

(c) Cattle camps have been established in Rajasthan and Gujarat. Fodder is being supplied also through Pinjrapoles, Gaushalas, fodder cards, fodder depots, feeding centres etc. Grant-in-aid for this purpose has been sanctioned at the norm of Rs. 3/- per cattle per day generally and at an enhanced rate of Rs. 4/- in the severely drought affected areas of Gujarat and Rajasthan. Fodder is being mobilised from surplus areas and forest sources. Special fodder cultivation is being undertaken under central grant and State Programmes.

(d) The European Economic Community has agreed to donate 75,000 MT of skimmed milk powder and 25,000 MT of butter oil over a period of seven years for implementation of Operation Flood III Project.

Complaints Regarding Approval of T.V. Serial

1852. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether Government had recently received any complaints regarding favouritism shown by the Doordarshan authorities in the matter of approving Television serials?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): No, Sir. No complaint duly substantiated by facts has been received by the Government recently.

स्टील अथारिटी आफ इंडिया द्वारा कोयले का आयात

1833. **श्री रशीद मसूद** : क्या **इस्पात और खान** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या स्टील अथारिटी आफ इंडिया ने अपने इस्पात कारखानों में उपयोग के लिए कोयला आयात करने का निर्णय किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में क्या ब्यौरा है ; और

(ग) इस प्रकार कोयला आयात करने के क्या कारण हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में इस्पात विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेंद्र मकवाणा) : (क) से (ग) जी, हां। स्टील अथारिटी आफ इंडिया लि० (सेल) मांग तथा देशी उपलब्धता के बीच के अन्तर को पाटने तथा धमन भट्ठियों में इस्तेमाल होने वाले कोयले की क्वालिटी में सुधार लाने के लिए उत्तम किस्म का कोककर कोयला आयात करती है। चालू वर्ष के दौरान लगभग 25 लाख टन कोककर कोयले का आयात किए जाने की सम्भावना है। देशी कोयले के साथ राख की कम मात्रा वाले आयातित धातुकर्मीय कोककर कोयले को मिला कर इस्तेमाल करने से कोयले की राख की कुल मात्रा में गिरावट आती है जिससे आधारिक कच्चे माल की क्वालिटी सुधरती है। इससे कोक की शक्ति अपेक्षाकृत अधिक बढ़ाने और इस्पात कारखानों की धमन भट्ठियों की उत्पादकता में अधिक वृद्धि करने में सहायता मिलती है।

Building for Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Orissa

1854. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras established and functioning in Orissa; and